

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: (i) the species of Figure 2A; (ii) the species of Figure 2B; and (iii) the species of Figures 4-6. The Examiner contends that the species are independent or distinct because they differ substantially in structure as to make them patentably distinct. This determination by the Examiner is respectfully traversed.

In an effort to expedite prosecution of the application, and in accordance with the Examiner's requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 for applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits, Applicants hereby elects the species of Figure 2A. Furthermore, Applicant identifies the following claims as encompassing the elected species: claims 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's determination that no claim is generic. Applicant further acknowledges that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend or otherwise require the limitations of the allowable generic claim.

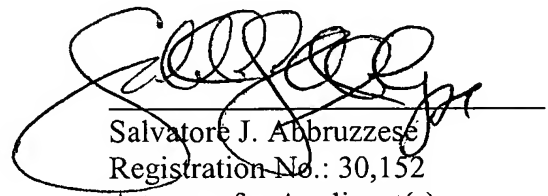
Accordingly, having elected a single species and having identified all claims readable on that species, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action has been responded to in full. The

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application, therefore, is deemed to be in condition for examination. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response, the undersigned would be pleased to address them by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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